

hold seats in the Legislative Assembly and administer affairs so long only as they retain the confidence of the people's representatives, precisely after the manner, and following the very forms of British parliamentary government; but altogether unfettered by any hereditary branch as in Great Britain, or by a nominated senate as in the Dominion. The Legislative Assembly holds annual sessions and is re-elected every four years (unless sooner dissolved) under a manhood suffrage law giving a vote to every man above the age of twenty-one years, who is a British subject by birth or naturalization, and is not a pauper, nor undergoing sentence for crime.

JUDICIAL AND MUNICIPAL SYSTEMS.

The organized portion of the Province (already described) is divided into forty-two counties and these into townships (answering to English or Scotch "parishes," and usually about ten or twelve miles square). The counties have their Judges, Registrars (of Deeds), Sheriffs and County Councils. The County Judge also holds Division (*i. e.*, Small Debt) Courts, in the several Divisions into which his county is divided, several times during the year, and a semi-annual Court of Assize is held at the County Town, so that law and justice in all matters of business or of contention, whether civil or criminal, are brought to the very doors of the people. The County Councils are composed of one or more representatives from each township, town or incorporated village within the geographical limits of the county, and administer all municipal affairs in accordance with the municipal laws of the Province. The townships have also their Councils, whose duty it is to administer local municipal matters, and one or more of whose members represent the township in the County Council. The cities, of which there are eleven, and the towns and villages, of which there are upwards of 200, and the number increasing every year, have also their Municipal Councils, the whole system of municipal government being thoroughly understood and carried out to its fullest extent among the people, nearly all of whom take an active interest in public questions of a local character. The municipal elections are held annually on the first Monday in January, and the electors are composed of the rate-payers, whose names appear on the assessment roll of the previous year.

POWERS OF MUNICIPAL COUNCILS.

The powers and duties of Municipal Councils are defined and regulated by Act of the Legislature, and embrace nearly the whole field of the local administration of public affairs. The levying and collection of taxes for the